

402-471-6044

STATE OF NEBRASKA

John A. Gale Secretary of State

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Lincoln - The Commemorative Quarter ProgramTM is a 10-year initiative, beginning in 1999 and concluding in 2008, commemorating each of the 50 United States. The goal of the first stage is to provide the U.S. Mint with three to five design concepts.

MEDIA ADVISORY – State Quarter Design Committee Press Conferences

Secretary of State John Gale is serving as Chairman of the Nebraska State Quarter Design Committee consisting of experts in the field of coin collecting, history, culture and art. Committee members, were selected by various organizations in Nebraska, including Governor Mike Johanns, the Nebraska Arts Council, The Nebraska Humanities Council and the Nebraska Historical Society. Norman Geske of Lincoln, Roger Bruhn of Lincoln, Gordon Howard of Bayard, Ms. Jodi Rave of Lincoln, Tom Bassett of Lincoln, Virgil R. Marshall of Wymore, Dr. Michael Schuyler of Kearney, and John Gale, Secretary of State, as Chairman, serve on the committee.

By state law, the Committee will seek ideas for the quarter design from the public. The Nebraska State Quarter will be released into circulation in 2006.

The Committee wants to highlight the design competition and ENCOURAGE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION by holding several PRESS CONFERENCES/KICK OFFS across the state. The Committee urges your coverage of these fun, entertaining, and informative events where you can help the public to become involved in the designing of the Nebraska quarter.

"NEBRASKA QUARTER KICK OFFS" will happen at the following dates and locations:

| Scottsbluff | Gering Civic Center – September 15 th | 9:00 AM (Mountain Time) |
|--------------|---|-------------------------|
| North Platte | Scouts Rest Ranch - September 15 th | 4:00 PM (Central Time) |
| Kearney | Museum of Nebraska Art - September 16 th | 10:00 AM |
| Lincoln | State Capitol Rotunda - September 17th | 10:00 AM |
| Omaha | Durham Western Heritage Museum - Sept. 17 th | 2:00 PM |

Present at the Kickoffs will be Secretary of State John Gale; Board members of the supporting councils and boards; entertainers David Seay and Chris Sayre, and local political leaders.

If you have any questions or need further information prior to the press conferences, please contact me at 402-471-1572. Thank you.